SHRI SOM PAL: This is not the answer to the question.. *(Interruptions)*...He is wasting the time of the House...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 105

Fiscal deficit

*105. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during 1993-94, the fiscal deficit shot up to 7.3 per cent of GDP against a target of 4.6 per cent; and

(b) if so, what are the cogent reasons therefor and the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) Yes Sir. The fiscal deficit in the Revised Estimates for 1993-94 was 7.3 per cent of GDP against the level of 4.6 per cent assumed in BE 1993-94.

(b) The main reasons were higher actual expenditure as compared to BE 1993-94 as well as shortfall in revenue and other non-debt creating capital receipts. Efforts are being made to contain the fiscal deficit through maximising revenues and limiting the expenditure to the budget level.

DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Hon. Chairman, Sir, may I ask the hon. Finance Minister if the World Bank has indicated that India's "worsened fiscal performance" could undermine the credibility of the fiscal adjustment programme? If so, please explain the basis for such a concern on the part of the World Bank.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH): I do not have to quote the World Bank to prove a point. I have been stating time and again that this country cannot simply wend its way into prosperity. We must create an environment in which our debt growth can be moderated. There are only two ways by which this can be done—either by increasing revenue or by moderating the growth of expenditure. That is the direction in which we are moving. As against 7.4 per cent in 1993-94, we brought down the fiscal deficit in the current year to 6.7 per cent and, on some definition, to 6.2 per cent. Next year we will bring it down further to 5.5 per cent. That is the way in which, over a period of time, we can put the fiscal system in a better shape.

DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Sir, is it a fact that whatever progress was gained by the Government in improving the fiscal performance has been lost in 1994? If so, what are the reasons for such a setback?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I respectfully submit to the hon. Member that what he stated is simply not in consonance with the facts. As I mentioned just now, we have brought the fiscal deficit down from 7.4 per cent to 6.7 per cent and, on a more meaningful definition, to 6.2 per cent. So, the situation in 1994-95 has improved. It is my expectation that the situation will further improve in the year 1995-96.

Repayment of external debt

*106. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL *alias* MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the amount of external debt aginst the country as on 31st March, 1994 which is to be repaid alongwith interest and from which countries it was obtained; and

(b) what is the amount of external financial assistance received by the country during the said period which will not be repaid and from which countries it was obtained?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) The total amount of external debt outstanding against the country as on 31st March, 1994 was US $-90.723 billion. The details of the countries from which it was obtained is given in the Brochure on External Assistance 1993-94 and the

Economic Survey 1994-95. Copies of both these documents are placed in the Library of the House.

(b) An amount of Rs. 885.62 crores was received during 1993-94 as external grant assistance which is not to be repaid. The details of countries from which it was obtained is also given in the Brochure of External Assistance 1993-94.

श्री मोहम्द अफजल उर्फ मीम अफजल : सर, मैं अपना सवाल करने से पहले...

شری محمد افضل عرف م - افضل :- سر - میں اپنا سوال کرنے سے پہلے...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please put your supplementary.

SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL *alias* MEEM AFZAL: My question has not been replied at all. The Minister sends me to the Library. He is a teacher and I am a student. If I have to go to the Library and consult, what is the need to put question here? Why has he not given us the information here?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH): Mr. Chairman, Sir, if the hon. Member is referring to the list of countries to which we owe or the list of countries from which we have obtained grants, it is a long list. But I can right now make it available to the hon. Member if he so wishes.

श्री मोहम्मद अफजल उर्फ मीम अफजल : सर, मेरा पहला सप्लीमेंटरी यह है कि 90.723 बिलियन जो कर्ज हमारे ऊपर 1994 तक है, 1995 में यह बढ़ कर कितना हो गया है और हमारी नयी इकोनोमिक पोलिसी के चलते एक आम हिन्दुस्तानी पर इस वक्त इस पूरे कर्ज को अगर डिवाइड करें तो रुपये के हिसाब से कितना कर्ज पे करना है ? यह मैं जानना चाहता हूं ।

شری محمد افضل عرف م - افضل :- سر - میرا پہلا سپلیمنٹری یہ ہے کہ ۹۰.۷۲۳ بلین جو قرض ہمارے اوپر ۱۹۹۴ء تک ہے - ۱۹۹۵ میں یہ بڑھ کر کتنا ہو گیا ہے - اور ہماری نئی اکنامیک پالیسی کے چلتے ایک عام ہندوستانی پر اس وقت اس پورے قرض کو اگر ڈیوائڈ کریں تو روپیہ کے حساب سے کتنا قرض پے کرنا ہے - یہ میں جاننا چاہتا ہوں -

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: Sir, I don't have the figures relating to per capita income. I can make this information available to the hon. Member. But I wish to assure the House that in the last three years, our Government has sought to reduce the growth of debt. In fact, in the first half of 1994-95, the actual debt has gone down, instead of increasing.

श्री मोहम्मद अफजल उर्फ मीम अफजल : सर, मंत्री जी ने अपनी इकोनोमिक पोलिसी का भी कई सवालों के अन्दर जिक्र किया और अभी उन्होंने यह कहा कि यह कर्ज हमने कम किया है । पिछले तीन सालों में जब से उनकी नयी इकोनोमिक पोलिसी आई है, एग्जेक्ट अमाउंट बताएं कि उन्होंने कितना कर्ज वापिस किया है और उससे पहले वापिस नहीं हो रहा था तो यह भी बताएं कि उन्होंने कितना पैसा वापिस किया है और कितना इस मुल्क के ऊपर बोझ कम किया है ?

†[ ] Transliteration in Arabic Script.

شری محمد افضل عرف م - افضل :-
سر :- منتری جی نے اپنی اکنامیک پالیسی کا بھی کئی سوالوں کے اندر ذکر کیا اور ابھی انھوں نے یہ کہا کہ یہ قرض ہم نے کم کیا ہے - پچھلے تین سالوں میں جب سے ان کی نئی اکنامیک پالیسی آئی ہے ایگزیکٹ اماؤنٹ بتائیں کہ انھوں نے کتنا قرض واپس کیا ہے - اور اس سے پہلے واپس نہیں ہو رہا تھا تو یہ بھی بتائیں کہ انھوں نے کتنا پیسہ واپس کیا ہے اور کتنا اس ملک کے اوپر بوجھ کم کیا ہے -

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: Sir, the external debt at any given time reflects both inflows and outflows, So, the amount mentioned is the total outstanding debt after making repayments. The figures of external debt, therefore, cover both the sides, namely what we have received and what we have paid.

SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL *alias* MEEM AFZAL: Sir, he is not willing to give any information. He has only esked me to go to the library and consult the documents there. The entire country is watching this Question Hour. We want that the cuontry should know how much we hae paid

कितना बर्डन आपने हिन्दुस्तानियों के ऊपर कम किया है और कितना हिन्दुस्तान का हर आदमी कर्ज़दार है ? कितने छोटे-छोटे और बड़े-बड़े कंट्रीज़ से हम कर्ज़ ले रहे हैं ? बजाय इसके कि आप हमें यह बताएं कि हम कहां-कहां से पैसा वसूल कर रहे हैं, यह बताते हुए आप शर्माते क्यों हैं

شری محمد سلیم :- کتنا برڈن آپ نے ہندوستانیوں کے اوپر کم کیا ہے اور کتنا ہندوستان کا ہر آدمی قرضدار ہے - کتنے چھوٹے اور بڑے بڑے کنٹریز سے ہم قرض لے رہے ہیں - بجائے اس کے کہ آپ ہمیں بتائیں کہ ہم کہاں کہاں سے پیسہ وصول کر رہے ہیں - یہ بتاتے ہوئے آپ شرماتے کیوں ہیں -

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Give us the figures relating to 1991. What was the amount of outstanding external debt at that time and what is the present state?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: Let me clear the position ..(*Interruptions*) Mr. Chairman, Sir, India's external debt as on 31st March, 1990, was 75.904 billion dollars. It was 83.959 billion dollars as on 31st March, 1991; 85.334 billion dollars as on 31st March, 1992; 89.986 billion dollars as on 31 March, 1993 and 90.723 billion dollars as on 31 March, 1994. As on 30th September, 1994, the total outstanding debt stood at 90.452 billion dollars, which shows a decraese in the dollars value of the debt.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

†[ ] Transliteration in Arabic Script.